

policy to conserve the political power of the Huguenots, in spite of stipulations to the contrary, it was equally dangerous to play into the hands of the greatest adepts in intrigue that the world has known. Political necessity might explain the concession to the Huguenots, whose experience had taught them that without more substantial guarantees than treaties their lives and liberties were not safe. It was a different thing in the case of an international order which was but another name for a vast fraternity, whose solidarity was unique, and whose aims were not hampered by national or even moral considerations. The sequel was to show that they were to abuse the toleration granted them by working for the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and the establishment of an ecclesiastical tyranny which, however beneficial to the pope, was incompatible with the best interests of France.

SOURCES.—The gist of this chapter, with the exception of the section on Etienne Dolet, is taken from my book on The Growth and Decline of the French Monarchy (1902). The chief authorities on which I have drawn for the chapters of that work dealing with this subject are:—Isambert, *Recueil Général des Anciennes Lois Françaises*, tomes xi. to xiv.; *Relations des Ambassadeurs Venetiens*, edited by Tommaseo for the Documents Inédits ; *Commentaires de Blaise de Monluc*, edited by A. de Ruble for the Société de l'Histoire de France; *Journal d'un Bourgeois de Paris*, edited for ditto by L. Lalanne ; *Lettres de Marguerite D'Angoulême*, edited for ditto by F. Genin; *Brantôme, Vies des Grands Capitaines*, edited for ditto by Lalanne ; *Archives Curieuses*, edited by Cimber and Danjou, tomes ii., iii., vii., and xi.; *Journal de Louise de Savoie*, in Petitot's *Collection des Mémoires*, t. xvii.; *Mémoires de Tavannes* in ditto, tome xxiii.; *Mémoires de Vieilleville* in ditto, tome xxvi. ; *Histoire Ecclesiastique des Eglises Rti-*

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